

☒ Original ☐ Amendment

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

2015 AUG 31 PM 3:46

MEMBER / OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for travel taken in connection with a Member or officer's official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, 135 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. Please do not file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Kevin McCarthy
2. a. Name of accompanying relative: Judy or None ☐
b. Relationship to Traveler: ☒ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates of departure and return: Departure: August 8, 2015 Return: August 16, 2015
b. Dates at personal expense: _____ or None ☒
4. Departure city: Los Angeles, CA Destination: Israel Return city: Los Angeles, CA
5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
6. Describe meetings and events attended (attach additional pages if necessary): Attended meetings and toured different sites with Israeli govt officials and organizations on current issues
7. Attached to this form are EACH of the following (signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box):
 - a. ☒ a completed Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form;
 - b. ☒ the Primary Trip Sponsor Form completed by the trip sponsor prior to the trip, including all attachments and Grantmaking or Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms;
 - c. ☒ page 2 of the completed Traveler Form submitted by the Member or officer; *and*
 - d. ☒ the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the sponsor's agenda. (Signify that statement is true by checking box): ☒
b. If not, explain: _____

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses on the attached Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER: _____

DATE: August 31, 2015

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. ***A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within 10 days of their return.*** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation
2. Travel Destination(s): Israel
3. Date of Departure: August 8, 2015 Date of Return: August 16, 2015
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and Mrs. Judith McCarthy
(NOTE: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if all information is identical for each person listed.)
5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in response to Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$5,346.16	\$1,314.00	\$1,128.69	\$1,523.10 (breakdown attached)
Accompanying Relative	\$5,346.16	\$1,314.00	\$1,143.91	\$1,523.21 (breakdown attached)

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. (Signify statement is true by checking box): ☒

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name: Richard Fishman Title: Executive Director

Organization: American Israel Education Foundation

I am an officer of the above-named organization (signify statement is true by checking box): ☒

Address: 251 H Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Telephone number: (202) 639-5233

Email Address: rfishman@aiefdn.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at (202) 225-7103.

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Republican Members of Congress
August 8-16, 2015

Breakdown of Other Expenses \$1523.10

Security: \$406.30 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Room Rentals: \$262.49 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Other: \$254.48 per person

-Water, snacks

-Briefing materials

Tour Guide/Driver/Security/Speaker Meals: \$133.49 per person

Speaker Fees: \$138.21 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Tour Guide: \$115.13 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Tour Guide/Driver/Security Hotels: \$112.01 per person

Tips: \$44.13 per person

-It is customary to tip the driver and tour guide that accompany trip participants.

Entrance Fees: \$40.63 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Photographer: \$16.23 per person

-A photographer is present at meetings with dignitaries.

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Republican Members of Congress
August 8-16, 2015

Breakdown of Other Expenses \$1523.21

Security: \$406.30 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Room Rentals: \$262.49 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Other: \$254.48 per person

-Water, snacks

-Briefing materials

Tour Guide/Driver/Security/Speaker Meals: \$133.60 per person

Speaker Fees: \$138.21 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Tour Guide: \$115.13 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Tour Guide/Driver/Security Hotels: \$112.01 per person

Tips: \$44.13 per person

-It is customary to tip the driver and tour guide that accompany trip participants.

Entrance Fees: \$40.63 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Photographer: \$16.23 per person

-A photographer is present at meetings with dignitaries.

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Kevin McCarthy
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
3. Travel destination(s): Israel
4. a. Date of departure August 8, 2015 Date of return: August 16, 2015
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a relative at the sponsor's expense? ☒ Yes ☐ No
b. If yes:
(1) Name of accompanying relative: Judy McCarthy
(2) Relationship to traveler: ☒ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
(3) Accompanying relative is at least 18 years of age: ☒ Yes ☐ No
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(d) on the Primary Trip Sponsor Form (*i.e.*, travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent and you are requesting lodging for two nights)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
b. If yes, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:

7. Primary Trip Sponsor Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and contributing sponsor forms: ☒ Yes ☐ No
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.
I will be attending this educational trip to learn and receive updates on the continued and current regional and geopolitical challenges facing the region, and their effects on our foreign policy.
9. Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, and/or arranging the trip? ☐ Yes ☒ No

10. **FOR STAFF TRAVELERS:**

TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Date: _____

Signature of Employing Member

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

MASTER
McCarthy

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a Traveler Form at least 30 days before the start date of the trip. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee Web site (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.

1. Sponsor (who will be paying for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent (signify that the statement is true by checking box): ☒
3. Check only one: I represent that:
 - a. the primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip ☒ or
 - b. the trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds ☐ or
 - c. the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities. ☐If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: _____
4. Provide names and titles of ALL House Members and employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary):
Please see attached
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying relative of the House invitee(s)? ☒ Yes ☐ No
6. Date of departure: August 8, 2015 Date of return: August 16, 2015
7. a. City of departure: Los Angeles, CA
b. Destination(s): Israel
c. City of return: Los Angeles, CA
8. I represent that (check one of the following).
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: ☐ or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: ☒ or
 - c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist/foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations. ☐
9. Check one of the following:
 - a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above: ☒
 - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging: ☐
 - c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night: ☐ or
 - d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights: ☐If "d" is checked, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted: _____

- 10 Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities the House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees) (indicate agenda is attached by checking box): ☒
- 11 Check one:
 a I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify that the statement is true by checking box): ☒ or
 b. N/A – trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education. ☐
12. For each sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip and its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the fundamental purpose of educating policy makers and opinion leaders about the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing and funding all aspects of the trip.

- 13 Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary.
 a Mode of travel: Air ☒ Rail ☐ Bus ☐ Car ☐ Other ☐ (Specify: _____)
 b Class of travel: Coach ☐ Business ☒ First ☐ Charter ☐ Other ☐ (Specify: _____)
 c If travel will be first class or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
n/a

14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s) (signify that the statement is true by checking box): ☒
- 15 I represent that either (check one of the following):
 a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: ☐ or
 b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically with regard to congressional participation: ☒
 If "b" is checked.
 1) Detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
\$157.14
 2) Provide reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____
The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate members of Congress and Congressional staff about the U.S.-Israel relationship.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
 Hotel name: King David Hotel City: Jerusalem Cost per night: \$407s/\$434d
 Reason(s) for selecting: location and affordability
 Hotel name: The Scots Hotel City: Tiberias Cost per night: \$549s/\$581d
 Reason(s) for selecting: please see addendum
 Hotel name: _____ City: _____ Cost per night: _____
 Reason(s) for selecting: _____

DOUBLE

17 I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment (signify that the statement is true by checking box): ☒

18 TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$7,955.81	\$2,787.50	\$1,100
For each accompanying relative	\$7,955.81	\$180.50	\$1,100

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$1,379.76	please see attached
For each accompanying relative	\$1,379.76	please see attached

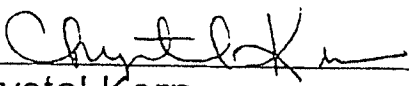
NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

19. Check one:

- a I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below. ☒ *or*
b N/A – sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education. ☐

20 I certify that I am not a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent for any sponsor of this trip. ☒

21 I certify by my signature that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge

Signature: 

Name

Crystal Kern

Title:

Chief Financial Officer

Organization:

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Address:

251 H Street NW. Washington. DC 20001

Telephone number

(202) 639-5374

Email address:

ckern@aiefdn.org

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address

Committee on Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (general fax)

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Republican Members of Congress
August 8-16, 2015

List of Invitees:

AIEF strives to educate all members of Congress about the partnership between the United States and Israel. This seminar also enables policy makers to better understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as events taking place in the larger Middle East region.

Title	First Name	Last Name	Party	State	District
Representative	Ralph	Abraham	R	LA	5
Representative	Rick	Allen	R	GA	12
Representative	Brian	Babin	R	TX	36
Representative	Andy	Barr	R	KY	6
Representative	Mike	Bishop	R	MI	8
Representative	Rod	Blum	R	IA	1
Representative	Mike	Bost	R	IL	12
Representative	Bradley	Byrne	R	AL	1
Representative	Buddy	Carter	R	GA	1
Representative	Barbara	Comstock	R	VA	10
Representative	Carlos	Curbelo	R	FL	26
Representative	Dan	Donovan	R	NY	11
Representative	Mike	Fitzpatrick	R	PA	8
Representative	Bill	Flores	R	TX	17
Representative	Garret	Graves	R	LA	6
Representative	Frank	Guinta	R	NH	1
Representative	Crescent	Hardy	R	NV	4
Representative	Jody	Hice	R	GA	10
Representative	Steve	Knight	R	CA	25
Representative	Barry	Loudermilk	R	GA	11
Representative	Mia	Love	R	UT	4
Representative	Tom	MacArthur	R	NJ	3

Title	First Name	Last Name	Party	State	District
Majority Leader	Kevin	McCarthy	R	CA	23
Representative	Patrick	McHenry	R	NC	10
Representative	Martha	McSally	R	AZ	2
Representative	John	Moolenaar	R	MI	4
Representative	Markwayne	Mullin	R	OK	2
Representative	Dan	Newhouse	R	WA	4
Representative	Gary	Palmer	R	AL	6
Representative	David	Rouzer	R	NC	7
Representative	Steve	Russell	R	OK	5
Representative	Jason	Smith	R	MO	8
Representative	David	Trott	R	MI	11
Representative	Ann	Wagner	R	MO	2
Representative	Mimi	Walters	R	CA	45
Representative	Brad	Wenstrup	R	OH	2
Representative	Bruce	Westerman	R	AR	4
Representative	Lee	Zeldin	R	NY	1
Representative	Ryan	Zinke	R	MT	AL
Director of Member Services, Majority Leader McCarthy	Natalie	Buchanan	R	CA	23
Director of Communications, Majority Leader McCarthy	Mike	Long	R	CA	23
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy, Majority Leader McCarthy	Elizabeth Barrett	Karr	R	CA	23

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Republican Members of Congress
August 8-16, 2015**

Breakdown of Other Expenses

Security: \$428.57 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Room Rentals: \$214.29 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Other: \$207.14 per person

-Water, snacks

-Briefing materials

Tour Guide: \$119.05 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Speaker Fees: \$119.05 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Tour Guide/Driver/Security Hotels: \$83.33 per person

Tour Guide/Driver/Security/Speaker Meals: \$83.33 per person

Entrance Fees: \$65.48 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Tips: \$35.71 per person

-It is customary to tip the driver and tour guide that accompany trip participants.

Photographer: \$23.81 per person

-A photographer is present at meetings with dignitaries.

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Republican Member of Congress
August 8-16, 2015**

Hotel Addendum

At the Scots hotel in Tiberias, the prices range from \$404-\$549 for a single room; and \$436-\$581 for a double room. The majority of the rooms are on the lower end of this spectrum, but our practice is to put the highest possible cost. The reason for the higher costs are due to the following factors: August is considered high season in Israel; there are limited options in the Galilee region; for security reasons we are renting out the entire Scots hotel in order to have all members at one location.

Charles W. Dent, Pennsylvania
Chairman
Linda T. Sánchez, California
Ranking Member

Patrick Meehan, Pennsylvania
Trey Gowdy, South Carolina
Susan W. Brooks, Indiana
Kenny Marchant, Texas

Michael E. Capuano, Massachusetts
Yvette D. Clarke, New York
Ted Deutch, Florida
John B. Larson, Connecticut



ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

July 29, 2015

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Joanne White
Administrative Staff Director

Clifford C. Stoddard, Jr.
Counsel to the Chairman

Daniel J. Taylor
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515 6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
U.S. House of Representatives
H-107, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your and your spouse's proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for August 8 to 16, 2015, sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation.

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$375 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$375] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

¹ The U.S. Department of State has issued a warning concerning travel to Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza, available at <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings/israel-travel-warning.html>. You may wish to contact the State Department regarding the safety of your proposed trip.

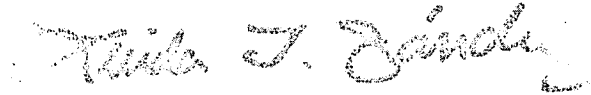
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles W. Dent". The signature is stylized with large, looped letters.

Charles W. Dent
Chairman

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Linda T. Sanchez". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Linda T. Sanchez
Ranking Member

CWD/LTS:wfs

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Republican Member of Congress
August 8-16, 2015

FINAL ITINERARY

Saturday, August 8th, 2015

- Saturday Members will fly from various cities to Philadelphia International Airport, Newark Liberty International Airport, and John F. Kennedy International Airport
- 9:10 PM USAIR flight departs Philadelphia International Airport
- 10:45 PM United flight departs Newark Liberty International Airport
**(THIS FLIGHT WAS CANCELLED AND RESCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 9 –
PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LIST FOR MEMBERS ON THIS FLIGHT)**
Overnight at Crowne Plaza, Newark Airport
- 11:59 PM Delta flight departs John F. Kennedy International Airport

Sunday, August 9th, 2015

- afternoon Delta and USAir flights arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport
Transfer to Jerusalem
Check in to the King David Hotel
- 5:00 PM United flight departs Newark Liberty International Airport
- 7:00 PM Gather in lobby
- 7:15 PM *Meeting with the Democratic Members of Congress Educational Seminar*
- at the hotel, Ambassador's Hall
- 8:00 PM *The U.S.-Israel Relationship*
Dinner with the Honorable Daniel Shapiro
U.S. Ambassador to Israel
With the Democratic Members of Congress Educational Seminar
Remarks by Mr. Hoyer
Remarks by Mr. McHenry
- at the hotel, President's Hall
- 9:30 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

Monday, August 10, 2015

- 8:00 AM Breakfast on own
- at the hotel, President's Hall

9:30 AM	Depart, travel south
10:00 AM	United Flight arrives at Ben-Gurion International Airport
11:00 AM	<i>Life in the Shadow of Rocket Fire</i> Tour of Kibbutz Kfar Aza with local residents Lunch with soldiers at Kibbutz Nir Am Strategic briefing at Iron Dome Battery in Ashkelon
3:30 PM	Depart for Jerusalem
5:00 PM	Arrive at the King David Hotel
5:45 PM	Depart hotel
6:15 PM	<i>Understanding Israel's Political Mosaic</i> Meeting with Prof. Sam Lehman Wilzig Chairman, School of Communication, Bar-Ilan University - at Modern
7:30 PM	<i>Orientation and Political Update</i> - at Modern
8:00 PM	<i>Pulse of Israel Today</i> Dinner with David Horovitz Founding Editor, <i>The Times of Israel</i> - at Modern
9:30 PM	Overnight at the King David Hotel

Tuesday, August 11, 2015

8:00 AM	Breakfast on own - at the hotel, Ambassador's Hall
8:45 AM	Depart for the President's Residence Security check
10:00 AM	<i>Meeting with the Honorable Reuven Rivlin</i> President of the State of Israel Address by the President Response by Mr. McCarthy
11:15 AM	Depart

11:30 AM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem, Part I:*
Outlying Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier

12:30 PM Survey ends, depart for hotel

1:00 PM *View from the Opposition*
Lunch with the Honorable Isaac Herzog
Head, Zionist Union Party
- at the hotel, Ambassador's Hall

2:30 PM Depart

3:00 PM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem, Part II:*
The Old City & the Holy Basin

6:00 PM Depart for hotel

8:00 PM *Start-Up Nation*
Dinner with Israeli innovators
Gideon Ben-Zvi, Founder and Chairman, BriefCam
Debby Elnatan, Founder, UpSee
Assaf Rappaport, Co-Founder and CEO, Adallom
Yael Vizek, Founder and CEO, Zeekit
Moderated by Dan Senor, Co-Author, *Start-Up Nation*
- at the hotel, President's Hall

9:30 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

Wednesday, August 12, 2015

8:00 AM Breakfast is served
- at the hotel, Ambassador's Hall

8:15 AM *Understanding the Threat of a Nuclear Iran*
Breakfast with Maj.-Gen. (Ret.) Amos Yadlin
Director, Institute for National Security Studies
Former Head, IDF Intelligence
- at the hotel, Ambassador's Hall

9:30 AM Depart
Security check

10:30 AM *Meeting with the Honorable Benjamin Netanyahu*
Prime Minister
- at Prime Minister's Office

12:30 PM Depart

12:30 PM **Members only:**

- Depart for Ramallah
Lunch boxes en route
- 1:45 PM *The View from Ramallah: Israeli-Palestinian Relations*
Meeting with the Honorable Rami Hamdallah
Prime Minister, the Palestinian Authority
- at his office
- 3:00 PM Depart for Jerusalem
- 12:30 PM **Family Guests:**
Lunch
-at Angelica
- 1:30 PM Depart
- 2:00 PM *Tour of the Garden of Gethsemane*
- 3:45 PM Group reunited at Yad Vashem
- 4:00 PM *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*
Guided tour of Yad Vashem Holocaust
Memorial and Museum
- 5:30 PM Depart for hotel
- 7:00 PM Depart for dinner
- 7:30 PM *Tikkun Olam: Repairing the World*
Dinner with
Naty Barak, Chief Sustainability Officer, Netafim
Ariel Beery, Co-Founder and CEO, MobileOCT
Sivan Borowich-Ya'ari, Founder and President
Innovation: Africa
Ilan Fluss, Director of Policy Planning, MASHAV, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Rocky Muravitz, Tikvot
Tal Rabin, MDA Field Hospital, Nepal
Dita Roman-Kohl, Kishurit
Tamar Shapira, Director of International Relations Save a Child's Heart
Tal Vardi, Co-Manager, Roim Rachok Program
- at Olmaya
- 9:30 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

Thursday, August 13, 2015

- 8:15 AM Breakfast is served

- at the hotel, Ambassador's Hall

9:00 AM Depart hotel, travel north

10:30 AM *Israel's Narrow Waistline*
Strategic briefing at Alfei Menashe Overlook

11:30 AM Depart

12:30 PM *Beyond Iron Dome: Multi-Layer Missile Defense*
Lunch with Ari Sacher
System Development, Short Range Missile Defense, Rafael
- at Kochav HaYam

2:00 PM Depart
En route briefings:
The Jazreel Valley – The Natural Land Bridge between Africa and Asia
Har Megido / Armagedon: Why did the Area Earn this Moniker?

4:45 PM Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Israel's Borders with Lebanon and Syria
Strategic briefing with Col. Guy Shafran
Head, IDF 474th Brigade and
Col. (Ret.) Kobi Marom
- at Mt. Bental

6:45 PM Depart

7:30 PM Check in to the Scots Hotel

8:15 PM Depart for dinner

8:30 PM Dinner
- at Decks

10:30 PM Overnight at the Scots Hotel

Friday, August 14, 2015

7:30 AM Breakfast is served
- at the hotel, Mail Dining Hall

8:30 AM Depart

9:00 AM *Historical and Religious Significance of the Sea of Galilee*
Mt. of Beatitudes
St. Peter's Church
Capernaum

- 11:30 AM Survey ends
- 12:00 PM *Minority Rights in Israel*
Lunch discussion with AIEF staff and tour guides
- at Yardenit
- 2:30 PM Depart
Travel back to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley
- En route briefing:
Israel's Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- 4:30 PM Arrive at the King David Hotel
- 7:30 PM Depart hotel
- 8:00 PM *Reflections on the Sabbath in Jerusalem*
Traditional Sabbath Eve dinner hosted by Jerusalem families
Andi and David Arnovitz-LaVine
Keren and Joe Gellman
Judy and Shmuel Klitsner
Rivka and Martin Rapaport
Linda and Gil Troy
- at their homes in Jerusalem
- 10:00 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

Saturday, August 15, 2015

- 6:00 AM Breakfast is served
- at the hotel, Ambassador's Hall
- 6:30 AM Depart for Masada
- 8:15 AM *Geopolitics of the Roman Empire – Lessons for Today*
Tour of Masada National Archaeological Site
- 10:00 AM Depart
- 10:15 AM *Exploration of the Dead Sea Area*
- at Herods Hotel
- 12:00 PM Depart for Bethlehem
Lunch boxes en route
- En route briefing:
Making the Desert Bloom – Israel's Experience in Eco-Agriculture in Arid Areas

2:00 PM	<i>Visit to Bethlehem</i> Church of the Nativity Manger Square Milk Grotto
3:30 PM	Depart for hotel Prepare for departure
5:30 PM	Check out, bring your luggage to lobby
6:00 PM	<i>Bringing it All Together</i> Closing dinner - at the hotel, Ambassador's Hall
8:00 PM	Depart for the airport
11:10 PM	The flight to Newark Liberty International Airport departs
11:30 PM	The flight to Philadelphia International Airport departs

Sunday, August 16th, 2015

12:10 AM	The flight to John F. Kennedy International Airport departs
4:15 AM	The flight to Newark Liberty International Airport arrives
5:03 AM	The flight to John F. Kennedy International Airport arrives
5:18 AM	The flight to Philadelphia International Airport arrives
morning	Members depart Newark Liberty International and John F. Kennedy International Airports for their final destinations.

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Republican Member of Congress
August 8-16, 2015**

Saturday, August 8th, 2015

Saturday Members will fly from various cities to Newark Liberty International Airport or John F. Kennedy International Airport

10:45 PM Flight departs Newark Liberty International Airport

11:59 PM Flight departs John F. Kennedy International Airport

Sunday, August 9th, 2015

Afternoon Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport
Transfer to Jerusalem
Check in to the King David Hotel

7:30 PM *Setting the Stage*
Orientation and Political Update
- at the hotel

8:00 PM *The U.S.-Israel Relationship*
Dinner with the Honorable Dan Shapiro, Ambassador to Israel
Join the U.S. Republican Members of Congress for Reception and Dinner

- Remarks by Mr. Hoyer
- Remarks by Mr. McCarthy

10:00 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

Monday, August 10th, 2015

7:30 AM Breakfast is served
- at the hotel

9:00 AM Both delegations depart for the City of David

The City of David

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been an important foreign policy issue for consecutive U.S. Administrations and members of Congress. One of the most intractable issues in the conflict has been the question of Jerusalem. Jerusalem's City of David, more than any other site, represents the complexity surrounding this issue.

The City of David is the site most archeologists agree to be the ancient city of Jerusalem, which later became the capital of the united Israelite tribes under King David. This area is one of the most intensively excavated sides in the wider region. It is rich with archaeological remains showing Jews' physical and emotional attachment to Jerusalem for more than three thousand years. At the same time, much of the site is located in the predominantly Arab neighborhood of Silwan. The residents of

Silwan and the Palestinian Authority are opposed to these archeological efforts. A tour of the City of David provides both the historical basis for Israel's claim to Jerusalem as its capital and the modern political tensions that exist between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

9:15 AM *Political History of Jerusalem*
Guide tour of Jerusalem's earliest excavations

Jerusalem

Throughout its 4000 year history, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands many times. As home to the world's three great monotheistic religions—Judaism, Christianity and Islam—each of which has its imprint on the city, Jerusalem is probably the most disputed city in history. Today, the status of Jerusalem remains the most contentious issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jerusalem has been at the heart of all recent Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, from the Oslo Accords to the Camp David Summit to the Taba negotiations, and to the most recent talks under the auspices of the U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. To understand the current political issues, it is critical to understand Jerusalem's history and the role it has played in shaping the Middle East. This seminar will include site visits to various locations in and around Jerusalem to gain a first-hand look at the historic significance of the city, as well as its geographic layout.

10:30 AM Depart, travel south

12:00 PM *Living With the Threat of Rocket Fire*
Tour of the "Gaza Envelope" Area

- Tour of the town of Sderot
- Strategic briefing on an overlook into the Gaza Strip
- Lunch with residents of Kibbutz Kfar Aza on the border with Gaza

Sderot

Since Israel withdrew from Gaza in the summer of 2005 as a step toward peace, terrorists have fired thousands of rockets and mortars at Israel and amassed tons of increasingly advanced explosives and weaponry. Most of these rockets have been fired at the southern town of Sderot, a city of 20,000 people located close to the border with Gaza.

A visit to Sderot is integral to understanding the threats facing Israel's border cities. In Sderot, 10 civilians have been killed and hundreds injured since 2000 by the indiscriminate rocket fire. Rockets have hit schools, synagogues, residential homes, electrical facilities, public buildings, commercial areas, sporting facilities and vehicles. We will meet with residents of Sderot and witness the destruction caused by these rocket attacks.

Israel's Southern Front

Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. And since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines.

The visit to Kibbutz Kfar Aza and meeting with a local resident will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of

Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep, both physically and psychologically.

- 1:30 PM Depart
- 2:00 PM *America's Role in Protecting Israel*
Visit to an Iron Dome Battery
Briefing by the battery's commanding officer

The Iron Dome

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) typically honors our request to visit an Iron Dome battery, the joint U.S.-Israel funded rocket defense program. The military typically approves any visit to an Iron Dome location the week before the trip due to the constantly shifting security situation on the ground. A visit to an Iron Dome battery includes meeting with the soldiers and the commanding officer. For security reasons, we do not receive the names of the IDF soldiers meeting with the group.

- 3:00 PM Depart for Jerusalem
- 4:30 PM Arrive at the King David Hotel
- 6:30 PM *A View from the Opposition*
Meeting with the Honorable Isaac Herzog, Zionist Union Party
- at the hotel
- 7:30 PM *The Pulse of Israel Today*
Dinner with David Horovitz
Founding Editor, *The Times of Israel*
- at the hotel
- 9:00 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

Tuesday, August 11th, 2015

- 7:30 AM Breakfast is served
- at the hotel
- 8:00 AM *Understanding Israel's Political Mosaic*
Breakfast with Professor Reuven Hazan
Political Science Department, Hebrew University
- at the hotel

Understanding Israel's Political Mosaic

Professor Reuven Hazan is scheduled to speak from 8:00-9:15 am. It is critical for trip participants to have an understanding of the parliamentary system in Israel. Professor Hazan explains how the parliamentary party system works, how coalitions rise and fall, and how Israeli politics differ from American politics. Since the group will be visiting with government officials throughout the week, and the new coalition government has recently come to power, we believe it's important to provide this overview early in the seminar.

9:30 AM Depart

10:00 AM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem*
Part One: The Old City and the Holy Basin

Old City of Jerusalem and the Holy Basin

The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. During the Camp David II talks, the Palestinians and Israelis differed on the Jerusalem question, namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

1:00 PM Survey ends, depart

1:30 PM *Strategic Threats Overview*
Lunch with Dore Gold, Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

2:30 PM Depart

2:45 PM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem*
Part Two: Outlying Neighborhoods and the Security Barrier

Outlying Neighborhoods

When Jerusalem was reunified in 1967, following 19 years of division, the State of Israel extended the city's boundaries to include the strategic hills surrounding Jerusalem. These hills served as launching pads between 1948-1967 for sniper and mortar attacks on Israeli parts of the city by the Jordanian Army. Since 1967, these hills have become vibrant neighborhoods, fully integrated into the fabric of Jerusalem. It is vital for those discussing the issue of Jerusalem to understand these neighborhoods' strategic importance and their relationship to the areas in the immediate vicinity.

Security Barrier

After scores of suicide bombings and daily terrorist attacks against its civilians launched following the breakdown of the Camp David II talks, Israel began construction of a security barrier near the pre-1967 "Green Line" between Israel and the West Bank to prevent Palestinian terrorists from infiltrating into Israeli population centers. Since its construction began, the number of attacks declined by more than 90% and the number of Israelis murdered and wounded decreased by more than 70% and 85%, respectively. The barrier is approximately 455 miles long. To Israel, the security barrier serves as a necessary obstacle to protect its people. To the Palestinians and others in the world, the barrier represents a physical and symbolic divide.

This seminar will survey the security barrier at different points along its route to see first-hand the barrier's construction, the operation of crossing points in and out of Palestinian areas, and the technology that facilitates its operation. Both en route to the barrier and at the barrier itself, the group will explore the competing arguments raised by the Israelis, Palestinians and the international community.

- 4:00 PM Depart for the President's Residence
- 5:00 PM Meeting with the Honorable Reuven Rivlin
President of the State of Israel
- Address by the President
 - Response by Mr. McCarthy
- 6:30 PM Depart for hotel
- 7:30 PM Depart for dinner
- 8:00 PM *Start-Up Nation*
Dinner with Israeli innovators
Moderated by Wendy Singer, Executive Director, Start-Up Nation Central

Start-Up Nation

Ranked #1 in the rate of R&D spending globally, per capita venture capital investment and the number of start-ups outside Silicon Valley, Israel has proudly become dubbed "Start-Up Nation." The Start-Up Nation dinner discussion will be an opportunity to explore factors that lend to Israel's achievements in the high-tech sector, to learn how Israeli innovation is being employed to address some of the most pressing global challenges and to meet some of the country's most inspiring and cutting-edge entrepreneurs.

- 9:30 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

Wednesday, August 12th, 2015

- 7:30 AM Breakfast is served
- at the hotel
- 8:15 AM Depart
- 8:45 AM *Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust*
Guided tour of the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear development program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state. The museum's professional docent will guide the group through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

11:00 AM Depart for Psagot

12:00 PM Lunch with Dani Dayan
Former Chairman, YESHA Council
- at Psagot

YESHA Council – Israeli Settlement Policy

Israeli settlement policy is one of the more complex issues in the ongoing negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians. Mr. Dayan is an Israeli political leader, entrepreneur and advocate for Jewish communities in the West Bank. He offers a secular perspective on Israel's settlement policy. This session provides an opportunity for members to get an insider's perspective on Israeli settlement policy, the differing views among Israeli citizens, and the role settlements play in the current political climate.

1:00 PM Depart

1:15 PM *The Israeli-Palestinian Relations – The Palestinian Perspective*
Meeting with the Honorable Mahmoud Abbas
President, the Palestinian Authority
- at his office

2:30 PM Depart for the Office of the Prime Minister

4:00 PM Meeting with the Honorable Benjamin Netanyahu
Prime Minister of Israel
- at the Prime Minister's Office

6:00 PM Return to hotel

7:00 PM Depart

7:30 PM *Israel Around the World*
Dinner with
▪ Dr. Ofer Merin, Deputy Director General, Shaare Zedek Medical Center

- Rabbi Kalman Samuels, Founder, SHALVA – the Association for Mentally & Physically Challenged Children in Israel
- A representative from NATAL: Israel Trauma Center for Victims of Terror and War
- An expert on desalinization

Israel Around the World

Israel Around the World will be a dinner discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad. The group will be meeting with innovators that are global leaders in water conservation, fighting against HIV/AIDS through medical innovation, and bringing Israeli technology and medicine to third world countries.

9:00 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

Thursday, August 13th, 2015

7:30 AM *The Iranian Threat*
Breakfast with Major General (Ret.) Amos Yadlin, Director, Institute for National Security Studies

8:30 AM Depart, travel north

11:00 AM *Israel's Narrow Waistline – Strategic Significance*
Briefing at the Alfei Menashe Overlook

11:45 AM Depart

12:15 PM *Multi-Tier Missile Defense – U.S.-Israel Defense Cooperation*
Lunch with Ari Sacher, Iron Dome Systems Project Manager, Rafael Advanced Defense Systems

1:15 PM Depart
En route briefings:

- *The Jezreel Valley – the Natural Land Bridge between Africa and Asia*
- *Har Megido / Armageddon: Why Did the Area Earn this Moniker?*

The Jezreel Valley

For thousands of years, the Jezreel Valley served as a land bridge linking Africa, Asia and Europe, and serving as a thoroughfare for ancient caravans and, more frequently, armies. In modern times, during World War I, for example, the British and Turkish forces fought a number of pitched battles in the valley. In 1948, following Israel's establishment, the combined forces of Iraq and Jordan attempted unsuccessfully to capture the valley in order to split the just-born Israel into two parts. In the early 20th century, after decades of neglect, Jewish pioneers drained the swamps in the valley, transforming this region into Israel's "breadbasket" known for wheat, cotton, sunflowers and fish ponds. The Jezreel Valley is also home to historical and biblical sites including Tel Megiddo and Nazareth.

Today it is an important symbol of Israel's complex and diverse political reality. The Jezreel Valley, together with the areas of the Lower and Upper Galilee, is home to the majority of Israel's Arab citizens. A tour of this area provides an opportunity to discuss and learn about Israel's Arab citizens—20 percent

of the population—each of which has full democratic, social and welfare rights, the right to vote and serve in the Knesset, and the opportunity to serve on Israel's Supreme Court. These issues are not widely known and this segment gives trip participants the opportunity to understand Israel's relationship with its largest minority group.

- 4:00 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns*
Part One: The Border with Lebanon – Hizballah Next Door
- at the "Dado" Overlook with Colonel (Res.) Miri Eisin and
Brigadier General (Res.) Eyal Gilady, Chairman of Western Galilee College
- 5:00 PM Depart
- 6:00 PM Check in to the Scots Hotel in Tiberias
- 7:00 PM Depart for dinner
- 7:30 PM Dinner at Decks
- 9:00 PM Overnight at the Scots Hotel

Friday, August 14th, 2015

- 7:30 AM Breakfast is served
- at the hotel
- 8:30 AM Depart
- 9:00 AM Historical and Religious Significance of the Sea of Galilee
 - Mount of Beatitudes
 - St. Peter's Church
 - Capernaum

Christian Sites at the Sea of Galilee

As part of the seminar's focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the group will be visiting several of the most sacred sites for Christians in the Holy Land. Included is a guided tour and discussion of some of the most important events in the life of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. The site visits to the Christian sites help provide context for the competing religious narratives for the land of Israel, and are the beginning of several presentations on Israel's guarantee of religious freedom in a complicated region of the world. For example, we will be visiting the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount, the most studied and read speech of any religion in history. Our guide will also lead discussions through Capernaum and St. Peter's Church.

- 11:00 AM Survey ends
Travel up to the Golan Heights
- 12:00 PM Israel's Northern Border Concerns
Part Two: Israel's Border with Syria
Strategic Briefing at Mt. Bental with Colonel (Res.) Miri Eisin and

Brigadier General (Res.) Eival Gilady, Chairman of Western Galilee College

- 1:00 PM Depart
- 1:15 PM Lunch
- at Habokrim
- 2:15 PM Depart
Travel back to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley
En route briefing:
 - *The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Middle East in Upheaval*
- 5:30 PM Arrive back at the King David Hotel
- 7:30 PM Depart
- 8:00 PM *Reflection on the Sabbath in Jerusalem*
Traditional Sabbath Eve dinner hosted by Jerusalem families and discussion on life in Israel's capital in these turbulent times
- 10:00 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

Saturday, August 15th, 2015

- 7:30 AM Breakfast is served
- at the hotel
- 8:30 AM Depart for Bethlehem
- 9:00 AM Visit to Bethlehem
 - Church of the Nativity
 - Manger Square
 - Milk Grotto

Bethlehem

One of the main objectives of the seminar is to provide participants with a deep understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The city of Bethlehem is located just three miles from Jerusalem but already lies in a different country. Bethlehem is under full control of the Palestinian Authority. It is separated from Jerusalem by a security barrier and those traveling between Jerusalem and Bethlehem need to pass through a border checkpoint. By visiting Bethlehem, participants witness first-hand Palestinian self-rule. They also observe how the border checkpoint operates—this is especially important because each day thousands of Palestinians enter through such checkpoints on their way to work in Israel.

Additionally, the New Testament identifies Bethlehem as the birthplace of Jesus, making it one of the most significant religious sites in the world.

- 11:00 AM Depart for the Dead Sea region

En route briefing:

▪ *Making the Desert Bloom: Israel's Experience in Eco-Agriculture in Arid Areas*

12:30 PM Lunch at the Dead Sea

Dead Sea Region

During our drive to and from the Dead Sea area, as well as during our visit to the Dead Sea, our tour guide will discuss a variety of issues integral to understanding the region, the country, and relations with both the Palestinians and Jordanians.

It is important to note that the region is mostly desert. For decades, Israel has been challenging this arid area and developing its agricultural potential. While the Middle East is suffering from water shortages, Israel, through modern technology and water conservation policies, including the recycling of over 80% of water used for domestic purposes and transferring it to agriculture, has literally "made the desert bloom." Some of this technology is already being shared with Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. All sides realize that a comprehensive regional water policy will ensure food production necessary to satisfy the Middle East's growing population. For example, in late 2013, the three parties agreed to build a Red Sea-Dead Sea water project to address the shortage of fresh, clean water in the region and the rapid loss of water at the Dead Sea. This highlights the growing importance for Israel and her Arab neighbors to work together on joint environmental projects.

The key regional players also face serious environmental issues in the Dead Sea region. One of the major environmental concerns is the receding of the Dead Sea and the appearance of sinkholes, which cause the earth above to collapse. Roads, fields and buildings have collapsed due to this phenomenon, and experts are concerned the tourist infrastructure along the Jordanian and Israeli shores of the Dead Sea are also in danger. This issue has led to unprecedented cooperation between Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians and serves as a model for regional cooperation.

Another important element of the drive on the highway known as the "Jericho Road" is the strategic importance of the area east of Jerusalem. In 1948 and in 1967, the Jordanian army attacked Jerusalem from the east—the 1948 attack resulted in the city's division that lasted until 1967. Since then Israel has established the City of Ma'ale Adumim east of Jerusalem, today home to some 40,000 residents. To the Palestinians, however, Ma'ale Adumim is the largest settlement on the West Bank. When Israel attempted to expand Ma'ale Adumim's boundary, into an area known as "E-1", the U.S. State Department stepped in and asked that no construction take place there. The issue needs to be examined with those discussing the future of Jerusalem in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

2:00 PM Depart

2:30 PM *Geopolitics of Historical Israel— Lessons for Today*
Tour of Masada National Archeological Site

Masada

Masada, which was excavated in the 1960s, is considered one of the most important archeological sites in Israel, indeed in the whole world.

Masada was the site of the last stand of the Jews in Israel after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Holy Temple in 70 A.D. A group of Jewish Zealots fled to the Judean Desert and lived in the former

mountaintop fortress of King Herod known as Masada for two years resisting the onslaught of the most powerful army in the world. Determined to break the resistance, the Romans finally scaled the mountain to capture and enslave the Jewish rebels. However, when they finally arrived, they found that all the men, women and children had killed themselves as a last act of defiance. They refused to give in to the Romans and become their slaves.

The ancient story of Masada has important contemporary relevance for the modern State of Israel. "Masada shall never fall again" has become the watchword of the country which has faced existential threats since its founding in 1948. Israel's elite military units, for example, are sworn in on top of Masada in a symbolic act of defiance against Israel's contemporary enemies. These soldiers along with the thousands of Israeli school children who visit Masada each year learn the lesson that Israel should never become so weak again that it would ever face national suicide as an option.

We will spend approximately two hours atop of Masada with a professional guide. The time at Masada with the guide is focused on three areas: 1. touring the magnificent ancient excavations; 2. learning the narrative of Jewish resistance to the Romans backed by the archeological and historical evidence; 3. discussing the importance of the Masada story to the contemporary Middle East and the threats in the region.

During our trip to the Negev, we will also visit Qumran, where most of the famous Dead Sea Scrolls were found; and the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth and a major source of minerals for both Israel and Jordan.

4:30 PM	Depart, travel back to Jerusalem
6:00 PM	Arrive back at the hotel Prepare for departure
7:00 PM	Depart
7:30 PM	<i>The U.S. – Israel Relationship: Bringing It All Together</i> Closing dinner
9:00 PM	Depart for the airport
11:10 PM	The flight to Newark Liberty International Airport departs

Sunday, August 16th, 2015

12:10 AM	The flight to John F. Kennedy International Airport departs
4:15 AM	The flight to Newark Liberty International Airport arrives
5:03 AM	The flight to John F. Kennedy International Airport arrives
Sunday	Members depart Newark Liberty International and John F. Kennedy International Airports for their final destinations.

Members and family guests on United Flight arriving Monday, August 10, 2015

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy (CA-23) and Mrs. Judith McCarthy
The Honorable Brian Babin (TX-36) and Mrs. Roxanne Babin
The Honorable Mike Bishop (MI-8) and Mrs. Christina Bishop
The Honorable Mike Bost (IL-12) and Mrs. Tracy Bost
The Honorable Barbara Comstock (VA-10) and Mrs. Sally M. Burns
The Honorable Mike Fitzpatrick (PA-8) and Mrs. Kathy Fitzpatrick
Mrs. Gina Flores
The Honorable Martha McSally (AZ-2)
The Honorable John Moolenaar (MI-4) and Mrs. Amy Moolenaar
The Honorable Markwayne Mullin (OK-2) and Mrs. Christie Mullin
The Honorable Dave Trott (MI-11) and Mrs. Kappy Trott
The Honorable Ann Wagner (MO-2) and Mr. Ray Wagner
The Honorable Brad Wenstrup (OH-2) and Mrs. Monica Wenstrup
The Honorable Bruce Westerman (AR-4) and Mr. Eli Westerman
The Honorable Ryan Zinke (MT-AL) and Mrs. Lolita Zinke

Natalie Buchanan, *Director of Member Services*, OFFICE OF THE HONORABLE KEVIN MCCARTHY
Mike Long, *Director of Communications*, OFFICE OF THE HONORABLE KEVIN MCCARTHY